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THE NEW
NDP GOVERNMENTS:
EXPLOITATION
AS USUAL

FULCRUM

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THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

OBJECT:

The establishment of a system of society based upon the common ownership and democratic control of the means and instruments for producing and distributing wealth by and in the interest of society as a whole.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

The Companion Parties of Socialism hold:

1. — That society as at present constituted is based upon the ownership of the means of living (i.e., land, factories, railways, etc.) by the capitalist or master class, and the consequent enslavement of the working class, by whose labor alone wealth is produced.
2. — That in society, therefore, there is an antagonism of interests, manifesting itself as a class struggle between those who possess but do not produce, and those who produce but do not possess.
3. — That this antagonism can be abolished only by the emancipation of the working class from the domination of the master class by the conversion into the common property of society of the means of production and distribution, and their democratic control by the whole people.
4. — That as in the order of social evolution the working class is the last class to achieve its freedom, the emancipation of the working class will involve the emancipation of all mankind, without distinction of race or sex.
5. — That this emancipation must be the work of the working class itself.
6. — That as the machinery of government, including the armed forces of the nation, exists only to conserve the monopoly by the capitalist class of the wealth taken from the workers, the working class must organize consciously and politically for the conquest of the powers of government, in order that this machinery, including these forces, may be converted from an instrument of oppression into the agent of emancipation and overthrow of plutocratic privilege.
7. — That as political parties are but the expression of class interests, and as the interest of the working class is diametrically opposed to the interest of all sections of the master class, the party seeking working class emancipation must be hostile to every other party.
8. — THE COMPANION PARTIES OF SOCIALISM, therefore, enter the field of political action determined to wage war against all other political parties, whether alleged labor or avowedly capitalist, and call upon all members of the working class of these countries to support these principles to the end that a termination may be brought to the system which deprives them of the fruits of their labor, and that poverty may give place to comfort, privilege to equality, and slavery to freedom.

Those agreeing with the above principles and desiring enrollment in the Party should apply for Application for Membership from the secy of nearest local or the Nat'l Hdqtrs.

These seven parties adhere to the same Socialist Principles:

LEAGUE OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS — Gussriegelstrasse 50, A-1160 Vienna, Austria.
SOCIALIST PARTY OF AUSTRALIA — P. O. Box 1440, Melbourne, Box 2291, GPO, Sydney, P. O. Box 1357, Brisbane.
SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA — P. O. Box 237, Victoria, B.C.
SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN — 52 Clapham High St, London SW. 4
SOCIALIST PARTY OF NEW ZEALAND — P. O. Box 38082, Petone, New Zealand; P. O. Box 1829, Auckland, New Zealand.
WORLD SOCIALIST PARTY OF IRELAND — 13 Queens Sq., Belfast, N. Ireland.
WORLD SOCIALIST PARTY OF U. S. — 295 Huntington Ave., Boston, Mass. 02118.

SOCIALISME en FRANCOIS

The dearth of socialist activities in French Canada, in the past, has been a source of annoyance and frustration to the members of the Socialist Party of Canada. This source of frustration, it seems, is about to end. The socialist movement will soon have a French journal. The journal will be called SOCIALISME MONDIAL (World Socialism). Exact details of the papers production have yet to be established but preliminary negotiations indicate that the paper will truly have an international flavour. The articles will be prepared in coordination with writers in London, Belgium, Paris, and Montréal, Quebec. The plates will be made up in Montréal and mailed to Victoria where the printing will be done. It seems a bit complex but with the lack of a completely fluent French member in Victoria there, presently, seems to be no other way to achieve this very desirable end.

With the prospect of a French journal on the horizon; with Ake Spross of Upsala translating socialist works into Swedish; and our well established Austrian journal; the socialist movement, though it cannot boast of any great verticle growth, is certainly enjoying a healthy development in a horizontal direction.

IN THE DUSTY CORNERS

While cataloging the Socialist Party of Canada Library a tattered old scrapbook was discovered. This scrapbook had been donated to the Party by Chris Luff. It contains a wealth of old newspaper clippings dating back to the early 1900's. It has been decided to periodically reproduce some of this material in FULCRUM. Chris is in good health and though, at the age of ninety, he does not take the active part he once did, many of the Victoria members remember with respect and affection the thorough grounding in Marxian Economics they received from Com Luff in his earlier classes. It was therefore considered appropriate that in tribute to Com. Luff's contribution to the socialist movement that the column should be entitled "From Chris Luff's Scrapbook".

THE PEOPLES PROTECTORS???

As we go to press we are treated to a televised account of storms of New Orleans police in pursuit of "three" snipers atop of the 18 storey Howard Johnson Hotel. A police helicopter felled one sniper but police continue to pour machine gun fire into his motionless body for a further five minutes. Police continued to pour gunfire at the "other two snipers". Now it appears that there was only one sniper. The police were actually shooting at their own men. The toll? - Seven dead and 15 wounded. How many were victims of the sniper and how many of the police is not yet known and if past performance in the Southern U.S. is any barometer the total truth may never be revealed but it is known that some of the police were wounded by their own ricochetting bullets. Such is the behavior of U.S. capitalism and few seem to be asking - WHY? What is it that drove this sniper to such a desparate act? What are the anti-social forces working on him to make him so alienated? Why are the officials so paranoid and wantonly violent? The Attorney-General called for an investigation to determine if the incident was part of a national terrorist conspiracy. The only conspiracy is that of the capitalist state.

The National Guard has been supplied with almost a quarter million M-16 automatic rifles. The M-16 fires 850 shots a minute. With fire power like that in the hands of these bloodthirsty maniacs there is plenty to be terrified about in the U.S.A. Can anyone doubt that such a society is becoming increasingly decadent?

The point is that the U.S.A. is the most advanced capitalism in the world today and if Marx was correct that the more advanced nations show to the less advanced the mirror of their own future we have plenty to be concerned about. Socialists renounce violence. Workers riddled with bullets can do little to bring about a new society. Worst still their violence merely gives to fascistically inclined administrators the excuse they want to impose more stringent controls. This can serve only as a barrier to getting rid of the greatest source of violence - CAPITALISM itself.

PRAISE THE LORD AND PASS THE AMMUNITION

The Jehovah's Witness Christian Religious sect's variation on a supreme being and a life here-after is that the Lord will make a Heaven here on earth for all those people who have obeyed His rules. "He" would guarantee a lot more followers if "He would give us some samples of Heaven first, being as all powerful as he is.

But while the Witnesses preach brotherly love, world peace and allegiance to no national flag, in addition to a life here-after, they are also concerned about the very earthly interests of an un-brotherly and parasitical minority in the here and now.

In an advertisement on the back cover of the June 8, 1972 issue of their "AWAKE" magazine they ask - "Are You Worried about the Sick Dollar?" And go on to ask: "This sickness has affected many businesses adversely. Has it affected yours? Are you worried about mounting economic problems that may cripple the profitability of your business? ... Awake magazine can prove helpful, "etc."

This may make the Lord's witnesses look like they're riding two horses in opposite directions. A closer scrutiny will reveal that the Lord up above is the right hand man of the boss down here. The life here-after is a promised fringe benefit, helping to keep wages and welfare down, alleviating some of the pain of existence and keeping dangerous thoughts of a working-class-made fruitful like on earth to a minimum.

HEALTHY PROFITS BEFORE HEALTHY PEOPLE

Two radio announcements, repeated over several days, as a "public service," part of that station's activities went like this: (1) The Greater Victoria Health Board warns that Sidney, Beach Drive and Glenlyon beaches are closed to bathing, and, (2) Greater Victoria Health Board warns that the Gorge and Portage Inlet are unfit for bathing.

A health board that warns of polluted beaches is analogous to a Highways Dept. that puts up signs warning about chuck holes in the road surface. Both are political signs of a social system where public affairs are conducted in the interests of a small minority, to the detriment of the rest of society.

When the quality of sewage disposal and control of industrial waste is restricted by the profit and loss ledger of a business oriented society, then it can be said that public health boards are really dedicated to the health of capital and profits -- not to the health of society.

Another recent example of this: "The U.S. House of Representatives has approved a bill to pay damages (to profits) estimated at between \$100 million and \$500 million suffered by businesses when cyclamates were banned three years ago." (Victoria Daily Times, "July 25/72.) House of Representative of whom? Cyclamates were found to cause cancer in rats. These businesses were on notice for years that cyclamates might be banned as harmful to health. But profits prevailed over the health of society. The government bequest will be used to compensate the lost profits of the firms for cyclamate processed foods that could not be sold. And how about society? No move was made to compensate anyone for possible cyclamate-caused impairment of health, because for one thing, it probably is not even known if or how much damage has been done. Profit dominated society is not that interested.

As was suggested previously, governments and other public institutions are dedicated to the health of capital and profits.

JGJ

THE NEW N.D.P. GOVERNMENTS: EXPLOITATION, AS USUAL

The New Democratic Party likes to claim that its predecessors in the House of Commons provided the motivating force which brought the first Old Age Pension to Canada in 1927.

Close to half a century later, the first NDP government to take over the ruling chores in the province of British Columbia, added \$50.00 to the federal pension being received by these destitute oldsters, just in time to equalize another rise in the cost of living. Which left these drained packages of labor power back on the tea and toast altitude of inconspicuous consumption they were enjoying before the election promises were made.

In 1933, the year of birth of the NDP's organized precursor, the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, it was "business as usual" for the capitalist class and misery and deprivation for the working class. The time was the middle of the worst and most wide spread economic depression the world had known. Thirty-nine years later, with variations here and there, with 3 provincial NDP governments in office, and with most of the CCF's Regina Manifesto now a part of the laws and constitution of modern Canadian capitalism, it is hardly necessary to say that the social scene still accentuates "business as usual" for the ruling strata and relative poverty and discontent for the working public. And this, at the end of an unprecedented, post World War II economic boom. The new B.C. Premier, Dave Barrett, spelled it out in just those words -- "Business as usual," to a friendly gathering of Chamber of Commerce businessmen recently. He reiterated that the two (government and Chamber) "will definitely live together." (Victoria Daily Times, Dec. 5/72).

In the deprived folk culture of some years past, it was alleged that if the females of the species homo sapiens were suspended in an inverted position, they would all look alike. There is much more fact in the proposition that if all the status quo political parties were stripped of their costume jewelry, their similarity would become extremely monotonous. Their attention-getting quotient is directly related to their degree of camouflage. If the CCF-NDP membership of the past were disenchanted over the alacrity with which dedicated Liberal and Conservative opponents seized upon, and used their cherished Regina Manifesto to strengthen Canadian capitalism, one might wonder why they did not then open their minds to new ideas, ideas that might actually be revolutionary. Sadly to say, this does not seem to have been the case, yet.

WARNINGS: TO THE WORKERS

The dust of electoral battle had hardly settled in B.C. before the new double-talkers had removed their television make-up, and exposed a bit more of the Dr. Jekyll that some workers have considered friend.

Sixty nine days after the ballots were cast, Premier Barrett warned organized labor, "Don't lie down and think heaven has arrived just because the NDP got elected. That's not the way it's going to be." he told 600 delegates attending the 17th annual convention of the B.C. Federation of Labor. "The honeymoon is over."

The new Labor Minister, Bill King, told the same conclave: "I acknowledge your right to with-hold labor, but I decry the frequency with which it is used." Note carefully, that he is decrying the frequency of strikes that took place under the previous administration, under the hated Socreds, the enemy of the working man, etc.

The point he unintentionally revealed is that while pretending to be on the side of the working man, the NDP is really a friend of the boss, which means, in the only process that goes on between the classes, one living off the other, of favoring more co-operation from the robbed with the robbers, with fewer strikes by the victims over miserable wages and working conditions, no matter which party is caretaking the system. He said he was not suggesting that strikes be eliminated completely (the thought was there!) but "we certainly need more harmony in the province." (Victoria Daily Times, Nov. 8/72). After glossing this over with an urging for unions to expand into the ranks of young people, he was given a standing ovation!

What more could the idle rich wish for, than a disciplined, productive army of proven social naivete, docilely eating out of their union and political foremen's hands? Who not only do not know the economic mechanics of their servitude, but who reveal no great interest in knowing; whose idea of social change is from the top down, e.g. ask the warden for improvements in the prison - tamed and tractable. One can almost see the tycoons rubbing their palms together, eyes gleaming in monetary anticipation.

References have been made in the past to the fascism-hiding-behind a red-flag of Russia and China. The fact that in conditions where there is only one boss - the state, that the situation for workers is far worse when the employers are so united behind their single, executive power. Where "harmony" between master and slave is constitutionally forced by laws against strikes, and the existence of one big 'company' union. The "mutual-admiration society" now being coalesced between (1) union leader-executives, (2) the NDP government and (3) the capitalist class in B.C. is an unmistakable kid brother to the monolithic capitalism of Russia and China. No bed-ability gap here. In a society which features a working class, with naturally no shortage of thorns in its daily grind, the biggest thorn in the side of the unionized sector in B.C. and Canada, could well be their union leaders. A real inside job.

In the mire of popular political ignorance, Senator Ed Lawson, Canadian director of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters was quite safe in postulating a "restoration of a very important ingredient - fairness on all sides," in industrial disputes. Simultaneously emphasizing that he "would not want to see labor making unreasonable and unfair demands." So, when workers want to raise the price of their commodity, it is a "demand." When the rulers of society raise the prices of their's it is merely an announcement, usually in the "interests of society." And since when, according to the media spokesmen, did strikers ever make fair demands? After this warning by a union-NDP-business handmaiden, the new Labor Minister repeated the ancient incantation: I believe in justice and don't believe in stacking the deck in terms of labor law for one side or the other."

That facade was considered by Frederick Engels to have been worn out in 1881, when he said, "The fairness of political economy, such as it truly lays down the laws which rule actual society, that fairness is all on one side - the side of capital."

The unionized fraction of the working people of B.C. seems to be too somnambulant at the moment to be perturbed at the knowledge that the new government has replaced the onerous Mediation Commission of the previous state whip-cracker, with dictatorial powers for the present Labor Minister, enabling him to enter places of work with no search warrant or other authority - "to do such things as he considers necessary to maintain or secure industrial peace." In terms of autocratic government pressure



against the workers on behalf of employers, the workers of B.C. may well have jumped from the frying pan into the fire. As a newspaper editorial obliquely hinted, in part the employing class might feel freer to gouge the workers on the job, now that its state servant is a "friend" of the workers, on the theory that the workers will accept more static from a "friend" than they will from an enemy. With friends like that...

REASSURANCE AND LOVE: TO THE CAPITALISTS

It was only a 39 year seduction and a honeymoon with its mistress - the workers. Now that the time for administrative loyalty has come, the B.C. NDP more openly woos its true love, for its wife - the share and bondholders, the rulers of the earth.

With startling speed, the new government got an ad in the Wall St. Journal, inviting outside entrepreneurs to come dip their fingers into the golden potential of the province's producers. To wit: "What better partner is there than the government of B.C.? We've got financial wizards, we've got a good credit rating, we've got resources, friendly government, hard-working people. Why, it's a love feast! (Time, Oct. 30/72). Our emphasis). In addition, the Investment Dealers of Canada are going to set up a new office in Vancouver, "to assist with presentations to the new government...it is planning to hire a full time, paid B.C. representative."

Another section of society's leeches, the B.C. Construction Association, intends to ask the new government for financial assistance to tide contractors over slack periods when profits are low or missing. It is no accident that when governments help businesses, they are helping millionaires (who have no way of ever personally consuming their immense affluence). When governments "help" workers, the "aid" is barely enough to keep them in productive shape, to produce more wealth for the wealthy.

MEANWHILE, IN MANITOBA: "...the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce, a conglomerate of chambers from rural Manitoba, that also submits an annual brief to the cabinet. (of the NDP government)...the relations between the government and the Manitoba chambers have been cordial and productive, and chamber officials have expressed surprise and pleasure at the government's receptive attitude to their ideas, (Victoria Daily Times, June 10/72) The profit climate is good in Saskatchewan too.

ARE YOU A MULTI-MILLIONAIRE? WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET RICHER?

THE NDP GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN WILL HELP YOU

The following advertisement appeared in financial publications. Headline: "Looking for hard, cold cash?" Followed by a picture of a cash register with its door open. More text: "Come and get it." (Their emphasis). "You'll have to put it to use by locating within this province. But it'll be worth it. Look at the facts.

Resources, labor force, markets -- east, west and south, all at your fingertips. If you're a manufacturing or processing industry looking to expand...take a hard look at Saskatchewan. If you qualify, we can help you greatly. How much in hard cold cash? Write us. We'll come to you." (Emphasis again theirs). "SASKATCHEWAN - a place to be growing" (capital of course). (Victoria Daily Times Dec. 12/72). The address of the Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce is given, in Regina.

Regina is also the place where the first manifesto of the CCF was drawn up, 39 years ago. Is this the final outcome that the sacrificing, hardworking pioneers of the CCF had in mind in those days? Did they visualize their movements leading to governments that would blatantly welcome capitalists to come to exploit the workers, use the resources, and even tell them in advance how much loot they could expect to lift, and hint that the only defense the worker has in the economic struggle be curtailed too?

continued on page 11

Book Review

"MONTEZUMA'S DINNER: AN ESSAY ON THE TRIBAL SOCIETY OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS" BY LEWIS HENRY MORGAN

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS NEW YORK 2ND PRINTING, 1967 Price \$0.60 US

This essay by Morgan was written as a criticism of Herbert Howe Bancroft's book "The Native Races of the Pacific States." It, first, appeared in the "North American Review" in April, 1876 - the year before Morgan's masterpiece "Ancient Society" was published. His criticism was not just against Bancroft but against all those who may be referred to as the romantic interpreters of history. But, in order to make his interpretation intelligible, Morgan was forced to describe the common mode of structure of the American Indian's social organization. Hence, the real value of this pamphlet is that it is an excellent introduction to the study of "Ancient Society."

Morgan divided his essay into seven parts - each part dealing with one custom or institution which was substantially universal to all Indians. It is these subdivisions which are fully developed in "Ancient Society" that will be of great interest to those who are just getting acquainted with Morgan.

The first part deals with the Indian social structure. It may be a surprise to some but the monogamous family was not the basis of social organization; it was the gens, The gens, Morgan writes, is one of the "oldest and most widely prevalent institutions of mankind." The gens is a kin group whose members have a common gentile name such as Wolf, Eagle, Turtle, etc. In this section, Morgan lists the rights, privileges and obligations which characterised the gens. It must be stressed that "all the members of the gens were free, and bound to defend each others freedom; they were all equal in position and in personal rights, the sachem and chiefs claiming no superiority; and they were a brotherhood bound together by the ties of kin."

In some tribes a certain number of gens might be united together for social and religious functions. This organization was called the phratry.

The most commonly known Indian organization was, of course the tribe. Morgan states that it was the instrument of government. "Their government was purely social, dealing with persons through their relations to a gens and tribe, and perfectly simple when examined as an organization."

Summing up the Indian social organization, using the Iroquois as an example, Morgan wrote:

"Recurring to the Iroquois organization, it may be remarked that the gens was founded upon kin, the phratry upon the kinship of the gentes, the tribe upon dialect, and the confederacy upon stock language. It resulted in a gentile society, fundamentally different from political society resting upon territory and property. It will be noted further that the Institutions of the Iroquois were essentially democratized - a fact that will ultimately be found true of every tribe and confederacy of the American aborigines."

Morgan's second part is called "The Land". Here, Morgan emphasizes that no Indian tribe had developed the "knowledge of the individual ownership of land in fee simple." However, the Iroquois held land by the tribe while the Aztecs held it by the gens. An Iroquois who cultivated land had the right of its use as long as he chose to occupy it but upon his death, he could not "will" to anyone. On the other hand, the Aztecs who were more advanced than the Iroquois, divided their land into three parts, one for the support of the government, another for the support of religion,

Book Review - "Montezuma's Dinner"

and the last for the support of the people "in their social subdivisions". Morgan, later, says of the Aztecs that "the idea of property was forming in their minds, but it was still in that immature state which pertains to the middle status of barbarism."

The last three parts can be lumped together as they all deal with an aspect of Indian life which illustrates the existence of primitive communism. For example, the "law of Hospitality" "tended to equalize subsistence, and while any household possessed a surplus to prevent destitution in any portion of the community." All products that were gained by hunting, fishing, or cultivation were common stock of the household. Moreover, Morgan deducted that "whenever Indian families are gathered in large households, the latter practice communism."

It is from his investigation of the American Indian, such as the few that we have noted, that Morgan applied to the Aztec confederacy and proves that Montezuma could not have been a king but must have been the main war chief. But even now most people - including many anthropologists and social historians hold to the Aztec monarchy theory. A recent example of this was a television show entitled "Appointment with Destiny" and the episode: "Cortez and Montezuma: The Conquest of an Empire." As "Montezuma's Dinner" is but an introduction to a greater work and in the hopes of stimulating an interest into the works of Morgan, I will conclude this article by quoting two paragraphs from Chapter Seven of "Ancient Society":

"The Indian pueblos in the valley of Mexico revealed to Europeans a lost conditions of ancient society, which was so remarkable and peculiar that it aroused at the time an insatiable curiosity. More volumes have been written, in the proportion of ten to one, upon the Mexican aborigines and the Spanish Conquest, than upon any other people of the same advancement, or upon any event of the same importance. And yet, there is no people concerning whose institutions and plan of life so little is accurately known. The remarkable spectacle presented to inflamed the imagination that romance swept the field, and has held it to the present hour. The failure to ascertain the structure of Aztec society which resulted was a serious loss to the history of mankind. It should not be made a cause of reproach to any one, but rather for deep regret. Even that which has been written, with such painstaking industry, may prove useful in some future attempt to reconstruct the history of the Aztec confederacy. Certain facts remain of a positive kind from which other facts may be deducted; so that it is not improbable that a well-directed original investigation may yet recover, measurably at least, the essential features of the Aztec social system."

"The 'kingdom of Mexico' as it stands in the early histories, and the 'empire of Mexico' as it appears in the later, is a fiction of the imagination. At the time there was a seeming foundation for describing the government as a monarchy, in the absence of a correct knowledge of their institutions; but the misconception can no longer be defended. That which the Spaniards found was simply a confederacy of three Indian tribes, of which the counterpart existed in all parts of the continent, and they had no occasion in their descriptions to advance a step beyond this single fact. The government was administered by a council of chiefs, with the co-operation of a general commander of the military bands. It was a government of two powers; the civil being represented by the council, and the military by a principal war-chief. Since the institutions of the confederate tribes were essentially democratical, the government may be called a military democracy, if a designation more special than confederacy is required."

John Woolcock

GLIMMER OF ENLIGHTENMENT MIDST SOVIETS

Members of the SOCIALIST PARTY of CANADA are often chided that their concepts of world socialism is impossible because of the large number of absolute dictatorships existing in the world. It is the contention of these protagonists that these absolute dictatorships will never allow their working class to express themselves politically. The socialist position on this is: that in modern society there can be no such thing as an "absolute dictatorship"; that dictatorship exists only to the degree that the majority, the working class, tolerate it, whether their toleration arises from lethargy or political ignorance or a combination of both.

A recent occurrence in the Soviet Union seems to bear out this socialist contention. In spite of the powerful dictatorship of the ruling class there, some members of the working class in Moscow managed to produce and secretly distribute the following leaflet. (As translated in the A.F.L.-C.I.O. FREE TRADE UNION NEWS - Aug. 72).

June 1, 1972 will mark the 10th anniversary of the day when prices for the basic necessities of life were increased. The prices were raised almost immediately after the 22nd Party Congress (1961) which, to the accompaniment of frenzied cries of joy and enormous noise, adopted the "Program of Socialist Construction."

The compilers of this miraculous pseudo-program had promised at the time: "Already in the course of the first 10 years (i.e., by 1970) all groups of the Soviet population will have all they need and will gain material security...the housing shortage will be ended." There was a plethora of figures, from which it followed that, at the present time, we must be on the threshold of paradise-like material abundance.

And then, suddenly--a rise in prices! Having trumpeted to the whole world their latest propaganda promises, the Kremlin rulers fell flat on their faces. But at once they started whining: "The measure is temporary...There is no doubt that in the nearest future it will be possible to lower retail prices."

This "temporary measure" is already 10 years old. "There is no doubt"...but the people have grave doubts. And not only doubts but disbelief in everything that is said from the tribunes of the Kremlin!

Ten years have passed... 'Carried out' were the decisions of many plenary meetings, of two congresses and two five-year plans. But the prices in the course of this time not only were not lowered, but actually increased 20-80 percent, and are continuing to rise. Open price increases are being made on food products and on manufactured goods, through changing of price categories, through lowering of quality, putting on new prices tags, etc.

Citizens! Our land has the richest resources in the world; it is the second industrial power of the world. Yet in terms of the standard of living of the working people the USSR occupies only the 26th place in the world, the last place among the developed countries. Our worker can buy for the wages he earns 7 to 12 times less than the American, English or West German worker.

Why so? Because an enormous share of these riches has been appropriated by the ruling top--appropriated secretly and openly. These riches are used to pay for their luxury living, for their dachas, villas, the "Chaika" cars, for their huge salaries, for their special allowances, for the extra rations, hidden from the people, for special health resorts, hospitals and sanatoria...The Kremlin rulers

Glimmer of Enlightenment - continued

and their parasites live better than did many of the Czar's high officials before the revolution. Yet they call themselves "the vanguard," its servants...

Servants indeed! They skin three skins off their "master"--the workman...

Another part of the people's wealth is sent abroad. Robbing their own people, the Kremlin rulers ship abroad enormous quantities of goods of the highest quality: meat, butter, fish, caviar, grain, woolen cloth, leather, valuable raw materials and other goods which are in short supply at home. Huge sums are thrown away by the Kremlin masters to supply arms to the so-called "fighters for freedom," to maintain abroad an enormous espionage network, and to bribe foreigners useful to our rulers. Large outlays are made to maintain foreign Communist parties. Tens of billions have been spent on the regime of Mao Tse-tung. To support and arm the People's Republic of Vietnam in its efforts to conquer South Vietnam, 3 million rubles a day is being spent. One million rubles a day is being spent on Cuba, 1 1/2 million a day on the Arabs.

Citizens! In our country there is no socialism. It is not socialism when the average wage of a worker is 100 rubles, while the income of high officials is several thousand rubles a month. It is not socialism when the people are deprived of elementary rights: freedom of speech, and of the press, the right to strike, etc. We are not going toward communism--these are all lies.

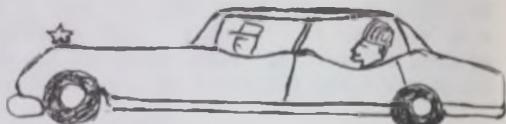
Our form of government is state capitalism, the worst possible form of government, which makes it possible for the rulers to pitilessly rob the people. Such a form of government was maintained in Germany at the time of Hitler's socialism.

Citizens! Our people are rising to fight for their rights. Strikes and demonstrations are taking place in Novocherkassk, Temir Tau, Cherdyn, Leningrad, and Moscow. Many of our scientists and writers are protesting against the deprivation of rights of their people. You should fight too. Demand political freedom, the lowering of prices, an increase in wages, the lowering of incomes of the Kremlin powerholders.

--The Citizens' Committee

The demands of the leaflet may go little beyond the level of trade union consciousness but certainly the demand for political freedom is most important, as is the realization that the country is state capitalist (long a socialist contention).

Socialists cannot merely rest easy that this bit of evidence will clarify the Russia myth. In spite of this their politically illiterate opponents will continue to deliver their two pronged, somewhat self-contradicting, attack. First they say that socialism is no good because of the Russia example. When on rare occasions it is pointed out that Russia is not socialist but state capitalist these same opponents then take this as proof that socialist attempts are therefore always doomed to such failure. If the Socialist can hang onto his students long enough, what is necessary to be pointed out is that Socialism didn't fail in Russia because of the distortions and brutality of Lenin, Stalin and Trotsky. Neither could it have been established



Do not drive near the factories, comrade chauffeur. I cannot stand the smell of the smoke.

The New NDP Governments - continued

If anyone is disillusioned by what 3 NDP governments are helping to do to the working public, it must be emphasized that the NDP is not making an "about face" contrary to its objectives. It is only contradicting its false face. It never questioned, never conceded, the existence of a class division in society between owners and non-owners of the means of life. Naturally those who have voted for it have been motivated by the dogma that the system run a bit differently, can function for all. There are probably as many ways of running capitalism, as there are ways of committing suicide. None of them are any good for people who want to live. In October of the same year that the Regina Manifesto was slapped together, the first issue of the Western Socialist came out, 350 miles away in Winnipeg; noting the "total lack of understanding...of the real problems confronting society, i.e. the private ownership of the means of wealth production," by the CCF Party. It has remained so through the NDP today.

GIVE THE LITTLE PEOPLE A BREAK

When Dave Barrett says, "Give the little people of this province a break," as he did over radio station CJVI, Feb. 4/72, before the election, he is not even hinting at the existence of a class division in society, as a social evolutionary phenomena that at one time did not exist and that can be ended any time a majority wants to end it. Nor was he suggesting that the rich minority lives off the wage-working majority. He was merely strengthening the myth that the disadvantaged, the deprived people of capitalism are that way because of vague natural or biological reasons, reasons which are immune to any manmade political solution, or that the cause is unknown.

The myth is as virtually accepted, and unquestioned as the planetary motions that cause the sun to appear to rise in the east every morning.

To abide by the "give the little people a break" hoax politically is, among other things, to discourage any glimmering consciousness that current social relations of haves and have-nots are man-made and can be ended by the working class. It is to weld the bars of the mental prison stronger; to perpetuate social inequality, and to postpone the day of freedom.

The fifty dollar supplement doled out to the pensioners via the boss' friend and servant, the NDP government, was slickly advertised in the media. Which means that those derelicts who were on a diet of canned dog food got off it for awhile, perhaps. They may have derived some psychological comfort, along with the hot water bottle they can now afford, (the biggest point made in the ad!) that with their vote they have some version or degree of social control. That some kind of social equality exists, despite the grip that the owning class has on their thinking, and the pathetic position they occupy in the social hierarchy.

Men will never be free from exploitation and oppression until all work is voluntary, and all goods and services are free. Socialism means a world wide society, democratically controlled, without profits, wages or money. This is a practical proposition now. The ideas of the NDP are not a step in that direction. They are not half a step. They are a barrier against any move in that direction. JGJ

(Subsequent articles will deal with the way the NDP is wedded to the other parties on taxes, nationalism-patriotism, function of the state, leadership, etc.)

FROM CHRIS LUUFF'S SCRAP BOOK: The Canner's League will buy and destroy 144,000 tons of kling peaches...to stabilize the price. -- California, 1911

Corruption
Afghan Children
Walking Skeletons

Money
War crime
Crisis

Thieves Steal
Kill

Face Rotten World, \$ EXCHANGE

LSD Users Told Extortion

Big Profits from Human Misery

Heart Attacks

Rich and Poor

Profit Up

Thousands Suicides a Day

\$ One More

Skid Road
Kills

100% Failure

DEATH

The Sick Society

People

Pill-Polluted

Cathcart said if most doctors understand a patient's economic woes, "you could understand why he gets sick at the end of the month."

A HAPPY 1973
TO YOU ALL.
BUT ---

VIETNAM

Hijacker

Graft, System Breeds Drug Use

JUDGES

Sales

Jails TRAGEDY

Police

DEATH

WILL CAPITALISM ALLOW YOU TO HAVE A HAPPY 1973?

As the King in the comic, Wizard of Id said, "I don't know whether to celebrate last year's misfortune or next year's hopelessness" -- people will PROPOSE, as if human actions are independent of social forms, and for another year capitalism will DISPOSE.

Inflation and unemployment are said to be the biggest problems in Canada. Both are distractions from, and variations of a basic problem which exists even when there is no inflation or unemployment. That is poverty.

Wages are the price paid for the workers' energy. Anything produced above that is surplus wealth for the boss, in this class divided society. There is a world of difference between enough goods and services to replenish the worker's energies and enough to meet his needs. Consequently poverty is a guaranteed feature of capitalism, past and future.

During the past year the government watered down the value of Canadian currency by increasing the total amount by 16 percent to "stimulate the economy", while learned economists and prominent politicians academically postulated solutions for inflation. The workers meanwhile, have continued to get uptight over the increase of degree of their poverty exemplified by currency devaluation and rise in the cost of "living", rather than being inquisitive over the cause of poverty itself. Poverty is worse in "backward" areas.

A few years ago, the charitable Unitarian Service Committee gave a figure on world starvation deaths per annum, equal to the population of Canada at that time. This meant an average of 109,000 per day -- a proportionate 10,000 of these being children according to a United Nations source. Whether this rate has declined or increased since then might be of interest to those who officially and supinely tabulate the tragedies of world capitalism.

More pertinent is why they die. When U.S. farmers, for instance, were paid to keep 60 million acres of land out of production in 1966, and where it was reported recently that India had an "abundance problem". In a world society where all things are produced for sale for profit, only those who can buy survive. It follows, that productive facilities function only as the needs of capital dictate. These facilities assume no other form but capital. The thousands who died today, yesterday, and the thousands more who will expire tomorrow, had brains and hands, and abilities and desires to provide for themselves. But capital is the world ruler. In a personified form, capital might say: "I am sorry people. I hate to do this to you, but I have no more markets, no prospects of increased sales, so I will not allow increased production. I am not going to feed you if I get no returns from you. If I cannot sell what you produce, then you cannot be a part of my economic equation. If I cannot employ you, use you, I have no reason for feeding you. While I exist, I allow you no other way of surviving. It is me or death."

Capitalism makes a mockery of goodwill and honesty too. The new country of Bangla Desh, born of one of the system's seiges of organized butchery, was going to be a land of milk and honey, with a paradise in every square foot. Relief supplies were sent to try to feed 1.5 million undernourished children and 8 million children suffering "some degree of undernourishment," before brain damage set in. It might be disappointing to the many Canadian workers who contributed to the relief funds to discover that a large percentage of their gifts were stolen and smuggled out to India and sold at a huge profit by Indian and Bangla Desh officials. But their disappointment might turn into education, that the environment of capitalism makes it practical for people to be greedy, dishonest and competitive.

Will Capitalism Allow You to have a Happy 1973? - continued

The struggle between the haves and the have-nots manifests itself in the realm of political ideas, with the class on top in control of the mass media, which they use to spread their ideas. In the province of Quebec they have succeeded in convincing the workers via Parti Quebecois and separatism generally, that Socialism equals having "our own language, our own country" in running public affairs. Which means running their own exploitation. Understandably the big, outside capitalists, and the ambitious local variety will consider that to be a fair deal. Give the workers a language of their own, while the rulers of society keep the means of production and distribution.

The mark of maturity has been defined as the ability of people to overcome the disadvantages and deprived circumstances of their early lives. We urge the exploited billions of this earth to do just this -- intelligently, politically. To become better informed; to see through the tired, repetitive and ancient subterfuges that conceal the monstrosity that is capitalism. To develop self esteem, self interest, - class consciousness. To work for freedom. JGJ

Glimmer of Enlightenment - concluded

by more honourable men. No great "leaders" whether honest or wise or otherwise can establish socialism. It can arise only from the material foundation of an industrially developed society in conjunction with a politically literate majority desirous of seeing Socialism's fulfillment. In Russia in 1917 neither of these necessary ingredients existed. Today the former exists and this "Citizen's Committee" leaflet would seem to indicate that the latter is taking the first tottering steps out of the crib.

Larry Tickner

WHO DISTORTS THE NEWS ?

Probably there are a few people left who are still a bit starry-eyed about the way capitalism's newspapers function. Their minds are filled with Hollywood notions of a conscientious editor relentlessly ferreting out the truth in his selfless attack against social injustices. "Freedom of the press" to these idealists means freedom for anyone to have any possible personal injustice that may chance upon him clearly and accurately reported in the press. Then there is the ultimate bastion of "freedom of speech" - the Letters-to-the-Editor column where anyone can have their ideas expressed by merely writing a letter. He hears reports of suppressed news and wastepaper baskets filled with good Letters-to-the-Editor material and the very guts cut out of many of those that are printed with stark disbelief.

It is doubtfull that many of FULCRUM's readers are so gullible, but to be safe a contrast should be made between how the capitalist press slants the news and how a socialist would report it.

The case in point is a Dec. 15/72 Victoria Times report by Pat Dufour. In the report Dufour tells how the oldest coast steamship, the Canora, is coming out of mothballs to be converted into a floating sawmill and training centre for Indians in the Queen Charlotte Islands. The project, which will involve both federal and provincial government participation, can be moved from site to site, the first being an estimated stay of three or four years. The report goes on to say that the sale of the Canora was made to a Canadian company in spite of a higher bid by Americans who wanted to turn it into a convention centre in San Diego.

Had the report been made by a socialist it would have taken a completely different angle:

A group of promoters have come up with a real money making scheme. On the pretext of building a training centre for Indians they have enlisted federal and provincial government support in the building of a floating sawmill. The phoniness of this pretext should be pretty clear. There are plenty of Indians that are already well versed with the lumbering industry. In fact many of them are overtrained, taking training course after training course for jobs that do not exist. The real nature of the enterprise has been well disguised by these capitalists. In plain truth the function of this sawmill is no more for the benefit of the Indians than was the early slaughter of the buffalo. What these capitalists intend to do is exploit the Indian in much the same way as they exploit anyone else. The Indians are not likely to be fooled by these "philanthropists". They have run into their kind many times before but in their dire poverty they need the jobs and are likely, therefore, to say nothing. They may even be aware of the extra special advantage the floating sawmill capitalist has; in the event of any labour unrest or union problems he can merely pull up (or threaten to pull up) anchor and move to an area where other Indians are in more desperate financial straits.

For sheer cunning and pecuniary cleverness these capitalists must be given top marks. Their patronizing attitude to the Indians has shut the mouth of the do-gooders. And by reporting that Americans were interested in the ship they successfully muzzled the nationalists. No one is asking the wrong questions: What happens to these Indians when the mill moves? Are they left in the same level of poverty as before with the added desperation of dashed hopes? With a floating sawmill what happens to the ecology of the shoreline? Where do the sawmill wastes go? Will the Indians receive the going union rate of pay?

No human rights group, no ecology group, not even unions, are asking these questions. Indeed, it is not expected that they will, for all of these groups have one thing in common; they all support capitalism. And while capitalism exists life will be miserable for the Queen Charlotte Indians if this sawmill doesn't go in. The thing that these reformers don't yet seem to be able to understand is that living under capitalism even when the mill does go in is still unsatisfactory. As the old saying goes: There are two major evils of capitalism; one is being exploited and the other is not being exploited.

Socialists know which of these presentations most accurately interprets what is happening. For others time will have to be their teacher. Not too much of it, we hope.

Larry Tickner

GRETA MILNE: The Socialist movement has lost another unswerving supporter in the death of Greta Milne. Greta joined the Winnipeg Local of the Socialist Party of Canada in 1947. She never missed a meeting except when out of town or not well. She helped with social activities and served on the Party's Publication Committee while it functioned. This committee took care of distribution, including mailing of SPC publications. Her interest in the Party never faltered. Our sympathies go out to her family. She will be missed by all of us.

ED FULCHER: Another stalwart passed on in October, 1972, in the person of Ed Fulcher. As a writer for the Western Clarion and speaker in the old Socialist Party of Canada, he cut his teeth on the Socialist philosophy in the Brandon Local of Manitoba. A raconteur of events of "the old days", Ed's contemporaries were the like of Jack MacDonald, Moses Baritz, Adolph Kohn. Among his early experiences was the one of watching the Royal Canadian Mounted Police pile his cherished library of Socialist classics and burning them. When the Victoria Local was reorganized about 1959, Ed turned over the major part of his collection of books at that time to us. Our sympathies go out to his family, he will be remembered by all of us who knew him.

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O B J E C T :

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DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

The Companion Parties of Socialism hold:

1. — That society as at present constituted is based upon the ownership of the means of living (i.e., land, factories, railways, etc.) by the capitalist or master class, and the consequent enslavement of the working class, by whose labor alone wealth is produced.
2. — That in society, therefore, there is an antagonism of interests, manifesting itself as a class struggle between those who possess but do not produce, and those who produce but do not possess.
3. — That this antagonism can be abolished only by the emancipation of the working class from the domination of the master class by the conversion into the common property of society of the means of production and distribution, and their democratic control by the whole people.
4. — That as in the order of social evolution the working class is the last class to achieve its freedom, the emancipation of the working class will involve the emancipation of all mankind, without distinction of race or sex.
5. — That this emancipation must be the work of the working class itself.
6. — That as the machinery of government, including the armed forces of the nation, exists only to conserve the monopoly by the capitalist class of the wealth taken from the workers, the working class must organize consciously and politically for the conquest of the powers of government, in order that this machinery, including these forces, may be converted from an instrument of oppression into the agent of emancipation and overthrow of plutocratic privilege.
7. — That as political parties are but the expression of class interests, and as the interest of the working class is diametrically opposed to the interest of all sections of the master class, the party seeking working class emancipation must be hostile to every other party.
8. — THE COMPANION PARTIES OF SOCIALISM, therefore, enter the field of political action determined to wage war against all other political parties, whether avowedly capitalist, and call upon all members of the working class of these countries to support these principles to the end that a termination may be brought to the system which deprives them of the fruits of their labor, and that poverty may give place to comfort, privilege to equality, and slavery to freedom.

Those agreeing with the above principles and desiring enrollment in the Party should apply for Application for Membership from the sec'y of nearest local or the Nat'l Hdqrs.

These seven parties adhere to the same Socialist Principles:

LEAGUE OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS — Gussriegelstrasse 50, A-1160 Vienna, Austria.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF AUSTRALIA — P. O. Box 1440, Melbourne, Box 2291, GPO, Sydney, P. O. Box 1357, Brisbane.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA — P. O. Box 237, Victoria, B. C.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN — 52 Clapham High St, London SW. 4.

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WORLD SOCIALIST PARTY OF IRELAND — 13 Queens Sq., Belfast, N. Ireland.

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